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L2: Entry 1 of 1

File: USPT

Jun 19, 2001

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6249773 B1

TITLE: Electronic commerce with shopping list builder

Abstract Text (1):

A method for engaging in electronic commerce (e-commerce) over a network from an e-commerce site, comprises the steps of: storing data representing an inventory of items for sale at the e-commerce site; storing historic and active shopping lists of respective shoppers at the e-commerce site; providing logged on shoppers with a shopping list builder tool for constructing entirely new shopping lists and for constructing new shopping lists from said stored shopping lists; accepting completed active shopping lists from the logged on shoppers; consummating purchases of products on the accepted lists; and, delivering the purchased products to the shoppers. The method can further comprise the step of: storing authorization data enabling shoppers to purchase the items at the e-commerce site on credit. Shoppers can use the shopping list builder to create, modify, delete and merge named lists. A permanent cumulative shopping list can be compiled for each shopper.

Brief Summary Text (16):

The method can further comprise the steps of: storing authorization data enabling shoppers to purchase the items at the e-commerce site on credit; and, authorizing shoppers to purchase the items as the shoppers log on to the e-commerce site.

Brief Summary Text (24):

The computer server can further comprise: means for storing authorization data enabling shoppers to purchase the items at the e-commerce site on credit; and, means for authorizing shoppers to purchase the items as the shoppers log on to the e-commerce site.

Detailed Description Text (13):

The consumer profile will contain, but is not limited to, historical purchase data, personal information, charge authorization data and the like.

CLAIMS:

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

storing authorization data enabling shoppers to purchase said items at said e-commerce site on credit; and,

authorizing shoppers to purchase said items as said shoppers log on to said e-commerce site.

22. The computer server of claim 21, further comprising:

means for storing authorization data enabling shoppers to purchase said items at said e-commerce site on credit; and,

means for authorizing shoppers to purchase said items as said shoppers log on to

said e-commerce site.

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L3: Entry 1 of 1

File: USPT

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Detailed Description Text (18):

A more detailed explanation of the list builder tool and the interaction of the list builder tool 26 with the shoppers and the e-commerce site, as well as the organization of the data bases 28, 30 and 32, can better be appreciated with reference to the graphical user interface (GUI) 50 shown in FIG. 2.

Detailed Description Text (19):

GUI 50 illustrates the manner in which data is presented to and manipulated by the shoppers as the shoppers utilize the tool to build a shopping list. The example is directed to groceries, but it should be appreciated that any inventory of items can be similarly represented. In accordance with general practice, user activatable functions are presented in pull down menus, in icons of buttons or pictures and in underlined words or phrases. Functionality of icons and underlined words or phrases is usually indicated to a user by the pointer arrow cursor changing to a hand and pointing finger when moved to the immediate vicinity of the icons or underlined words or phrases. The GUI 50 has a section 52 containing product data, a section 54 containing categories of items in the inventory by which items can be searched and from which items can be selected, and a section 56 containing a list of historical shopping lists for each shopper. A drop down menu 58 enables shoppers to select on of a number of shopping functions. A Go button 60 initiates a procedure, for example proceeding to the checkout phase of the virtual shopping trip when the product selections are complete.

Detailed Description Text (25):

The pull down menu 58 provides for selection of various functions which can be implemented through the GUI. The initial pull down menu can provide for managing lists, sorting, searching and selecting, as shown in FIG. 3. Managing lists, as a submenu 82, can provide for creating, merging, modifying and deleting lists, as shown in FIG. 4. These functions allow shoppers greater list management flexibility. The list managing functions are explained in greater detail.

Detailed Description Text (34):

With reference to FIG. 5, a GUI 100 is in the form of a window having areas 104, 106 and 108. Area 104 corresponds to area 54 of FIG. 2, and although area 104 is rendered in a different appearance, the function is the same. Similarly, area 106 corresponds to area 56 of FIG. 2, and although the names of the lists are different, the function is the same. Pull down menu 108 is similar to pull down menu 58 shown in FIG. 3. Pull down menu 108 illustrates a different selection of options, but functions the same as pull down menu 58. Area 102 is similar to area 52 of FIG. 2, but instead of showing a shopping list in progress, area 102 shows the specials. In this case, the specials are SportsDrink beverages in different flavors. Each entry can include a picture and a word description of the product, as shown by reference numeral 110. Each product includes a box 112, corresponding to the boxes in column 70 in FIG. 2, which can be marked to indicate that the product is to be added to the cart or to the shopping list. Each product also includes a

box 114, corresponding to the boxes in column 72 in FIG. 2, in which the quantity of the product can be entered. Finally, each product includes a price 116. The shopper has the option of activating the Add to Cart icon 118 to place the selected specials into the virtual shopping cart, or activating the Add to List icon 120 to add the selected specials to the shopping list in progress. The icons 118 and 120 correspond to icons 86 and 88 respectively in FIG. 2.